

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS JANUARY 26, 2010

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Funding

On July 21, 2009 the Board of Supervisors approved funding allocations from surplus funds available through AB 2994 (Child Abuse and Neglect, Intervention, and Treatment Funding, AB 2994 Children's Trust Fund) for four specialized programs. This approval also authorized the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to issue sole source contracts financed with funding available from the Children's Trust Fund for the following four (4) programs:

- \$115,800 a year for two years for a demonstration project for a Family Visitation Center and Safe Child Custody Exchange Program in Supervisorial District Three.
- \$103,000 for one year and \$109,000 for a second year for a two-year demonstration project for a Family Visitation Center and a Safe Child Custody Exchange Program in Supervisorial District Five.

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- \$100,000 a year for two years for a demonstration project to provide services for Recently Emancipated Foster Youth between the ages of 18 and 24 who are pregnant and have young children in Supervisorial District Two.
- \$100,000 a year for two years for a demonstration project addressing Child Abuse Prevention and Early Intervention Services for developmentally disabled children in Supervisorial District One.

This motion clarifies eligibility language for only one of these programs, the \$100,000 a year for two years for a demonstration project to provide services for Recently Emancipated Foster Youth between the ages of 18 and 24 who are pregnant and have young children in Supervisorial District Two.

The Board letter from the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) dated June 23, 2009 and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 21, 2009 indicated that the Gramercy Housing Group (GHG) would primarily be providing services to recently emancipated foster youth. For contracting purposes, it is important to clarify that GHG provides primary prevention services to any youth who meet the following criteria: single parents between the ages of 18 and 24 who are either pregnant or who have one child under the age of 5 years. There is no requirement that the youth served by this program be recently emancipated foster youth, though GHG acknowledges these youth as the primary target for their services.

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GHG provides their child abuse preventive services to youth on a first-come, first-served basis. At the time that this proposal was initially being considered, GHG was serving eight emancipated foster youth. At the present time they are providing services to three emancipated foster youth. The services being provided are within the scope of AB 2994 which established a County's Children's Trust Fund for the purpose of funding child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs operated by non-profit organizations. Research strongly indicates that single young parents with small children are a high-risk group for possible abuse and neglect and the services provided by GHG are specifically geared to provide supportive services needed to prevent any abuse or neglect from occurring. The fact that GHG services a population beyond that of emancipated foster youth does not disqualify GHG from receiving funds through AB 2994.

As the June 23, 2009 Board letter indicated, GHG would be primarily providing services to recently emancipated foster youth, and the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services has requested, for contracting purposes, that a motion be introduced to clarify that GHG will provide services to all youth who meet AB 2994 criteria and not only those who emancipated from foster care.

This program change is within this Board's authority under California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) sections 18965-18970.

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I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Approve, as clarified, the funding allocation from surplus funds available through AB 2994 for the following Board supported program.
 - \$100,000 a year for two years for a demonstration project to provide services for single parents between the ages of 18 and 24 who are pregnant or have a young child under the age of 5 years, some of whom may be emancipated foster youth; said services to be provided in Supervisorial District Two.
2. Authorize the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to enter into a contractual agreement with Gramercy Housing Group for the provision of services for single parents between the ages of 18 and 24 who are pregnant or who have a young child under the age of 5 years, some of whom may be recently emancipated foster youth. The program will be a two-year demonstration project that can be expedited through the execution of a contract with DCFS.

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